Case **Study**



Digital Forensics | Non-Compete

The Scenario

Non-Compete Case where Corporate client discovered VP of Marketing/ Manufacturing was simultaneously working for a competitor and funneling information, leads and business to a foreign competitor.

The Challenge

The client looked into their corporate e-mail system but came up with no evidence. The FBI was contacted initially, but claimed not enough evidence was present to proceed with an investigation.

The Solution



Client hired Vestige to perform digital forensics and analyze the email system and the employee's workissued computer. Through investigation of the artifacts, Vestige recovered two or three very interesting e-mails to support the client's case. But it's when Vestige reviewed the VP's work-issued laptop where they hit the mother lode — hundreds of e-mails and documents from the individual's web-based password Gmail account were

recovered that had been sent to the employee's home e-mail address. This discovery resulted in the granting of a Motion to Compel, allowing Vestige to then investigate the VP's home computers.

As a result of Vestige's thorough forensics and reporting, the FBI then got involved as this case was now viewed as international espionage.

The Result

Although the employee was not directly e-mailing corporate information from the office computer system to the competitor, through exceptional digital forensics performed by Vestige, usable evidence was produced for the client. The international competitor had to pay restitution and all associated costs. The VP not only lost both his jobs but was banned from the industry.

Key Points

- Client wanted to proceed with a Criminal Investigation, but FBI refused to take case initially
- Review of work computer revealed sensitive data had been sent to the individual's personal e-mail account
- Motion to Compel granted to gain access to personal devices
- Recovery of artifacts and web-based, personal e-mail revealed the extent of the theft
- FBI accepts case and proceeds with Criminal Investigation

Contact Vestige today to discuss your Digital Forensic needs.